

Application No. 09/901,566  
Response dated April 9, 2004  
Reply to Office Action of December 11, 2003

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims**

Claim 1 (currently amended): A seal structure in an engine body, comprising:

a crankcase which has a crank chamber and which is coupled to a lower end face of a cylinder block having a cylinder bore, the crankcase being comprised of first and second case halves having oppositely facing joint surfaces coupled to each other in a plane extending perpendicular to the lower end face of said cylinder block, wherein only one of the joint surfaces of said first and second case halves includes a U-shaped seal groove extending along a peripheral edge of said crank chamber, and wherein enlarged recesses are provided only in said one of the joint surfaces of the first and second case halves and extend laterally from opposite ends of said seal groove to be surrounded by the cylinder block and the first and second case halves;

a bar-shaped seal member mounted in said seal groove to come into close contact with the other of said joint surfaces of the first and second case halves such that enlarged end portions integrally formed at opposite ends of said bar-shaped seal member are entirely filled in the enlarged recesses; and

Application No. 09/901,566  
Response dated April 9, 2004  
Reply to Office Action of December 11, 2003

a gasket interposed between the lower end face of said cylinder block and cooperating end surfaces on said first and second case halves to come into close contact with upper end faces of said enlarged end portions, whereby a T-shaped intersecting joint area among said cylinder block and said first and second case halves is sealed by said seal member and said gasket.

Claim 2 (canceled)

Claim 3 (new): A seal structure in an engine body according to claim 1, wherein said seal groove and each of said enlarged recesses have substantially the same depth.

Claim 4 (new): A seal structure in an engine body according to claim 3, wherein said bar-shaped seal member comprises an intermediated bar-shaped portion having a circular cross section and said enlarged end portion have a square cross section.